



PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Reissue Application No.: 08/612,128

Filed: March 7, 1996

In re United States  
Letters Patent of :

FRANK CALANDRA, JR. et al. : BEARING PLATE

Serial Number 08/061,841 :

Filed May 14, 1993 :

Patent Number 5,292,209 :

Granted - March 8, 1994 :

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MAR 27 1997

GROUP 3500

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

ASSENT TO ASSIGNEE TO REISSUE

To the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks:

The undersigned on behalf of the assignee of the entire interest in United States Patent No. 5,292,209 entitled "Bearing Plate", hereby assents to the application for reissue of said patent.

I have reviewed the documents evidencing ownership of said patent and hereby certify that to the best of my knowledge and belief, title is in Jennmar Corporation.

JENNMAR CORPORATION

By

Frank Calandra, Jr.

Date

2/20/97

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REISSUE DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY

FRANK CALANDRA, JR., JOHN C. STANKUS AND EUGENE H. STEWART declare:

We are each citizens of the United States of America and residents of Pittsburgh, County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, whose post office address is 110 Haverford Road, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15238; Canonsburg, County of Washington, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, whose post office address is 425 Ironwood Drive, Canonsburg, Pennsylvania 15317; and Pittsburgh, County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, whose post office address is 1612 King James Drive, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15237, respectively.

We believe ourselves to be the original, first and sole inventors of the subject matter which is described and claimed in Letters Patent No. 5,292,202, granted on March 8, 1994 and in the reissue application filed March 7, 1996 bearing Serial No. 08/612,128 and for which invention we solicit a reissue patent.

We have reviewed and understand the contents of the reissue application including the drawings, specification and claims, as amended by any amendment referred to herein.

We do not know and do not believe that the same was ever known or used in the United States before our invention thereof.

We acknowledge our duty to disclose information of which we are aware which is material to the examination of this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, §1.56.

We verily believe U.S. Patent No. 5,292,209 (hereinafter "the patent") to be wholly or partly inoperative or invalid by reason of claiming less than we had a right to claim and by reason of typographic errors in the specification and drawings. These errors arose without any deceptive intent on the part of the Applicants. We solicit a reissue patent to correct these errors.

Specifically, claims 1 to 20 claim less than we had a right to claim because they do not claim the full scope of the invention. The specification contains several typographical errors, and Figs. 1 and 2 lack reference numeral 84. These insufficiencies in the claims, specification and drawings are as follows:

1) Claim 1 is defective because it is overly narrow. In particular, claim 1 specifies that the bearing plate includes "a circular embossed area extending outwardly from said plate outer surface and defining a recessed portion having a bottom wall with a central opening therethrough" (lines 19-22) and includes "a longitudinal embossed area extending outwardly from said opposite sides of said circular embossed area of said bearing plate into overlying relation with said means for

reinforcing said elongated member" (lines 30-34). However, the bearing plate need not include the circular embossment 68 and longitudinal embossment 69 shown in Figs. 1-3 to be operative, thus claim 1 to an apparatus having a bearing plate with those features is overly narrow.

The defect in claim 1 arose in March-May 1994 during preparation of the patent application by the counsel (Stanley J. Price, Jr., Esq.) at the time for the assignee of the entire interest in Patent No. 5,293,202 (Jennmar Corporation). It was not appreciated at that time by Jennmar Corporation's counsel that the bearing plate need not include a circular embossment or a longitudinal embossment.

The defect in claim 1 was discovered by Jennmar Corporations's new counsel (The Webb Law Firm) retained in December 1994. Said new patent counsel subsequently began a review of all the assignee of entire interest's intellectual property, including U.S. Patent No. 5,292,202. On or about May 15, 1995, Mr. Stankus requested said new patent counsel to review the claims of said patent to determine their scope and content. Said new patent counsel, which did not prepare or prosecute the application that eventuated into said patent, subsequently reviewed the patent and prosecution history in detail and verbally reported the scope of the patent claims. During a meeting of October 25, 1995 between said new patent counsel and Mr. Stankus, Mr. Stankus stated that he believed claim 1 claimed less than we had a right to claim because the bearing plate need not include a circular embossment or a longitudinal embossment to be operative, thus claim 1 to an apparatus having a bearing plate with those features is overly narrow. Mr. Stankus thereafter communicated his awareness to co-inventors Messrs. Frank Calandra, Jr. and Eugene H. Stewart.

New claims 21-23 have been added to the reissue application to encompass the inventive support apparatus having a bearing plate which does not require a circular embossment or a longitudinal embossment thereon. New claim 24 encompasses a method utilizing an apparatus similar to that claimed in new claim 21.

2) The specification is defective because certain terms used in new claims 21-24 do not appear in the patent specification, namely, "central portion", "legs" secured to opposite sides of the central portion and "rib receiving openings", "sides" of the bearing plate embossment, "first end" of each leg and "second end" of each leg.

These defects in the specification arose in March-May 1994 during preparation of the patent application by Stanley J. Price, Jr., Esq. Although each of these structures appear in the drawings, they were not named or referenced in the specification because they were not part of any claim language.

The defects in the specification were discovered by The Webb Law Firm in early 1996 during preparation of the reissue

application. Although the language of new claims 21-24 is supported by structures shown in the drawings additional language describing the "central portion", "legs" secured to opposite sides of the central portion and "rib receiving openings", "sides" of the bearing plate embossment, "first end" of each leg and "second end" of each leg (along with reference numerals therefor) was determined by The Webb Law Firm to be appropriate. Language regarding the "central portion 73" is added to the specification at column 6, line 39 and appears on page 6 of the reissue application. Language regarding the "legs 51" is added to the specification at column 9, lines 24 and 37 and appears on pages 9 and 10 of the reissue application. Language regarding the "sides 100 and 102", and "rib receiving openings 104 and 106" is added to the specification at column 9, lines 24 and 37 and appears on page 9 of the reissue application. Language regarding the "first end 108" and "second end 110" is added to the specification at column 9, line 61 and appears on page 10 of the reissue application. Each of these additions to the specification describe elements of new claims 21-24 already appearing in Figs. 1-3.

3. Figs. 1-4 are defective because reference numerals 51, 73, 100, 102, 104, 106, 108 and 110 and lead lines thereto for the structural language added to the specification are missing.

The defects in Figs. 1-4 regarding reference numerals 51, 73, 100, 102, 104, 106, 108 and 110 and lead lines thereto arose in March-May 1994 during prosecution of the patent application by Stanley J. Price, Jr., Esq. Although each of the structures appear in the drawings, they were not labeled with reference numerals and lead lines thereto because they were not part of any claim language nor present in the specification.

The defects in Figs. 1-4 regarding reference numerals 51, 73, 100, 102, 104, 106, 108 and 110 and lead lines thereto were discovered by The Webb Law Firm in early 1996 during preparation of the reissue application. Because the language of new claims 21-24 based on structures appearing in Figs. 1-4 was added to the specification along with reference numerals therefor, reference numerals 51, 73, 100, 102, 104, 106, 108 and 110 and lead lines thereto were added to Figs. 1-4 in the reissue application.

4) The specification is also defective due to typographical errors, namely, "With" instead of "with" at column 2, line 9; "6" instead of "69" at column 6, line 38; "89" instead of "88" at column 8, lines 43 and 46; "overly" instead of "overlay" at column 8, line 50; and "26 and 28" instead of "56 and 58" at column 8, lines 58, 60 and 62 and at column 9, lines 8 and 21.

The typographical defects in the specification arose in March-May 1994 during preparation of the patent application by Stanley J. Price, Jr., Esq.

These typographical defects in the specification were discovered by The Webb Law Firm in early 1996 during preparation of the reissue application.

5) Figs. 1 and 2 are also defective due to the absence of reference numeral 84 and a lead line thereto.

The defect in Figs. 1 and 2 in connection with reference numeral 84 inadvertently arose in March-May 1994 during preparation of the patent application by Stanley J. Price, Jr., Esq.

The defect in Figs. 1 and 2 was discovered by The Webb Law Firm in early 1996 during preparation of the reissue application.

We declare further that all statements made herein of our own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.

We hereby appoint Russell D. Orkin, Registration No. 25,363; William H. Webb, Registration No. 13,467; David C. Bruening, Registration No. 20,742; William H. Logsdon, Registration No. 22,132; David C. Hanson, Registration No. 23,024; Richard L. Byrne, Registration No. 28,498; Frederick B. Ziesenheim, Registration No. 19,438; Kent E. Baldauf, Registration No. 25,826; Barbara E. Johnson, Registration No. 31,198; Paul M. Reznick, Registration No. 33,059; Raymond J. Harmuth, Registration No. 33,896; John W. McIlvaine, Registration No. 34,219; Michael I. Shamos, Registration No. 30,424; Blynn L. Shideler, Registration No. 35,034; Julie W. Meder, Registration No. 36,216; Lester N. Fortney, Registration No. 38,141; Randall A. Notzen, Registration No. 36,882; and Jesse A. Hirshman, Registration No. 40,016, whose post office address is 700 Koppers Building, 436 Seventh Avenue, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15219-1818, Telephone No. 412-471-8815, our attorneys with full power of substitution and revocation, to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith, to amend the specification, to appeal in case of rejection, as they may deem advisable, to receive the patent when granted and generally to do all matters and things needful in the premises, as fully and to all intents and purposes as we could do.

All correspondence and telephone calls should be addressed to Russell D. Orkin.

I hereby subscribe my name to the foregoing specification and claims, declaration and power of attorney this 20 day of FEBRUARY, 1997.

Inventor 

Frank Calandra, Jr.

I hereby subscribe my name to the foregoing specification and claims, declaration and power of attorney this 20th day of FEBRUARY, 1997.

Inventor 

John C. Stankus

I hereby subscribe my name to the foregoing specification and claims, declaration and power of attorney this 20th day of FEBRUARY, 1997.

Inventor 

Eugene H. Stewart